

Release

from the South Carolina Forestry Commission

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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CONTACT:

Holly Welch
SCFC Environmental Program Manager
(803) 667-0815 | hwelch@scfc.gov

Forestry Commission announces additional funding available for BMP cost-share program

The South Carolina Forestry Commission has received funding from the U.S. Forest Service to expand the Forestry Best Management Practices (BMP) Cost-Share Program. The Forestry Commission is now accepting pre-applications for the federally funded portion of the cost-share program to improve stream crossing BMP compliance and help protect the waters of South Carolina.

This program will be administered by the Forestry Commission and will follow the state cost-share program protocol. Contractors who applied for the state cost-share program this year do not need to re-apply to be eligible for this funding. The information from the state pre-application will be transferred to this program.

To be eligible for the program, applicants must reside in South Carolina and be certified under the TOP Logger Program administered by the Forestry Association of South Carolina or an acceptable equivalent. In addition, applicants must not have any tracts with unresolved BMP compliance issues.



Cost-share funds will be available to eligible forest products operators for the purchase of portable bridges.

Cost-share funding is based upon actual expenses incurred. Approved applicants will be reimbursed 80% of the total costs to purchase a portable bridge up to a maximum of \$19,000.

Applications must be approved before the purchase is made to be eligible for reimbursement payments. Once funding is approved, the applicant must purchase bridges by June 1, 2024.

The initial application period will open Wednesday, Sept. 20, and close Wednesday, Oct. 11. A lottery system will be used to select which projects receive funding if the applications received exceed the available funds. If there are funds remaining after the initial funding period, they will be available on an open-enrollment basis.

If you would like to be considered for funding, complete and submit the pre-application form by Oct. 11, 2023.

Apply now!
[BMP Cost-Share Pre-Application](#)

Please contact Environmental Program Manager Holly Welch at (803) 667-0815 or via email at hwelch@scfc.gov if you have any questions.

